Replacement of the Slums

547. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey to find out the number of slums and slum dwellers in the country as on date;

(b) whether Government have formulated any policy/propose to formulate a policy to replace the slums by pucca dwelling units;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount of money likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI). (a) The Government of India has not conducted any comprehensive survey to ascertain the number of slums & slum dwellers in Urban Areas. However, the sample survey conducted by NSSO in its 49th round from January—June, 1993 indicates that there were 56,311 slums (declared + undeclared) with 59,34,000 estimated number of slum households in the urban sector in the country.

(b) to (d) National Housing Policy enunciated in 1994, lays emphasis on slums and Squatter Settlements in Urban Areas and Housing for Urban Poor and calls upon Central and States Governments to encourage in-situ upgradation, slum renovation, and progressive housing development with conferment of occupancy rights wherever feasible during 1996-97. National Slum Development Programme (NSDP), was started to provide Additional Central Assistance to State/UTs for upgradation of Urban Slums. In December 1997, Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment in consultation with Planning Commission issued revised guidelines of NSDP in which a component for Provision of Shelter was included. According to the revised guidelines, not less than 10% of the allocation to States under this scheme shall be utilised for construction and/or upgradation of houses for the urban poor. During 1996-97 and 1997-98, Rs. 250 crores and Rs. 330 crores respectively, were allocated to States/UTs under the scheme.

Parks converted into Barren Land in Delhi

548. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to shortage of "Khaad" hundreds of parks in Delhi have been converted into barren land;

(b) whether there is any proposal to enquire into, the shortage of 'Khaad' and the purchase of raw cow dung 'Khaad' by CPWD Horticulture; and

(c) the details of steps Government propose to take to ensure proper development of all the parks in the city and develop greenery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No park in Delhi maintained by CPWD has been allowed to generate into barren land due to shortage of 'Khaad'.

(b) Adequate quantity of cow dung mannure/ Okhla sludge is being procured and used by CPWD in the maintenance of Horticulture works.

(c) Parks are being developed/improved upon in different colonies in phased manner by CPWD. 29 parks have been developed/ improved upon in Government colonies by CPWD since 1992-93 at a cost of Rs. 45 lacs. More parks will be taken up for development depending upon the availability of resources.

Acquisition of Annat Ram Dairy Complex by Government

549. SHRI O.P. KOHLI : Will the MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have acquired the Annat Ram Dairy Complex in Delhi on 'as is where is basis';

(b) if so, the fact thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to inquire into the reasons for having not taken the possession of the land which was acquired on 5th November, 1958 initially and award in respect of which was Passed on 25th August, 1967 and to book all the guilty officials; and